AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of providing a channel of television programming to a class of subscribers, comprising:

at a television service provider headend, receiving programming content from a first subscriber, the first subscriber being one of the class of subscribers, the programming content being transmitted electronically from the first subscriber to the service provider headend via a first subscriber's set-top box; and

multicasting the programming content from the service provider headend to the class of subscribers, the multicasting being carried out by addressing a set-top box corresponding to each subscriber belonging to the class of subscribers.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the programming content is received from the first subscriber by an upload to ~~a~~ the service provider headend via a dial-up narrowband telephone communication link.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the programming content is received from the first subscriber by an upload to ~~a~~ the service provider headend via a wideband telephone communication link.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the programming content is received from the first subscriber by an upload to ~~a~~ the service provider headend via a cable modem communication link.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the multicasting comprises multicasting the programming content over a leased digital television channel.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the multicasting is carried out by:

encrypting the programming content using an encryption key;

providing the encryption key to the class of subscribers; and

broadcasting the encrypted programming content to the class of subscribers.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the class of subscribers comprise one of a family, affiliates of a corporate entity, and people with a common interest.

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the programming content is received from the first subscriber by an upload to ~~a~~ the service provider headend ~~of content~~ from one of a still camera, a video camera, a video tape player, an audio tape player, a CD player ~~players~~, a PVR and a scanner.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of providing a channel of television programming to a class of subscribers, wherein the class of subscribers comprise one of a family, affiliates of a corporate entity, and people with a common interest, the method comprising in combination:

at a tevision service provider headend, receiving programming content from a first subscriber, the first subscriber being one of the class of subscribers, the programming content being transmitted electronically from the first subscriber to the service provider headend via a first subscriber's set-top box;

wherein the programming content is received from the first subscriber by an upload to ~~a~~ the service provider headend via one of a dial-up narrowband telephone communication link, a wideband telephone communication link and a cable modem communication link;

and

multicasting the programming content from the service provider headend over a leased digital television channel to the class of subscribers, the multicasting being

carried out by addressing a set-top box corresponding to each subscriber belonging to the class of subscribers by:

encrypting the programming content using an encryption key;

providing the encryption key to the class of subscribers; and

broadcasting the encrypted programming content to the class of subscribers.

10. (Currently Amended) A method of providing a channel of television programming to a class of subscribers, comprising:

establishing the class of subscribers and leasing a television channel from a television service provider;

electronically transmitting programming content from a first subscriber to the service ~~provider~~ provider's headend, the first subscriber being one of the class of subscribers, the programming content being transmitted from the first subscriber to the service provider headend via the first subscriber's set-top box;

scheduling playback of the programming content; and

multicasting the programming content from the service provider headend over the leased television channel to the class of subscribers.

11. (Original) The method according to claim 10, wherein the multicasting is carried out by addressing a set-top box corresponding to each subscriber belonging to the class of subscribers for transmission of the content.

12. (Original) The method according to claim 11, wherein the multicasting is carried out by:

encrypting the programming content using an encryption key;

providing the encryption key to the class of subscribers; and

broadcasting the encrypted programming content to the class of subscribers.

13. (Original) The method according to claim 10, wherein the television channel comprises a digital television channel.

14. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein the programming content is received from the first subscriber by an upload to the service provider headend via one of a dial-up narrowband telephone communication link, a wideband telephone communication link and a cable modem communication link.

15. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein the programming content is received from the first subscriber by an upload to ~~a~~ the service provider headend of content from one of a still camera, a video camera, a video tape player, an audio tape player, a CD player ~~players~~, a PVR and a scanner.

16. (Original) The method according to claim 10, further comprising removing the programming content by:

requesting a schedule arbiter to remove the content; and

the schedule arbiter removing the content.

17. (Original) The method according to claim 10, wherein the scheduling is carried out by a schedule arbiter.

18. (Currently Amended) A method of providing a channel of television programming to a class of subscribers, comprising:

establishing the class of subscribers and leasing a digital television channel from a television service provider;

electronically transmitting programming content from a first subscriber to the service provider's headend, the first subscriber being one of the class of subscribers, the programming content being transmitted from the first subscriber to the service provider headend via the first subscriber's set-top box;

wherein the programming content is received from the first subscriber by an upload to the service provider headend via one of a dial-up narrowband telephone communication link, a wideband telephone communication link and a cable modem communication link;

wherein the programming content is received from the first subscriber by an upload to ~~a~~ the service provider headend of content from one of a still camera, a video camera, a video tape player, an audio tape player, a CD player ~~players~~, a PVR and a scanner;

a schedule arbiter scheduling playback of the programming content;

multicasting the programming content from the service provider headend over the leased television channel to the class of subscribers by addressing a set-top box corresponding to each subscriber belonging to the class of subscribers for transmission of the content by:

encrypting the programming content using an encryption key;

providing the encryption key to the class of subscribers;

broadcasting the encrypted programming content to the class of subscribers;

removing the programming content from the schedule by:

requesting a schedule arbiter to remove the content; and

the schedule arbiter removing the content.

19. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the programming content is stored on a server residing at the service provider headend.

20. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the programming content is stored on a server residing at the service provider headend, and wherein the server is designated for storage of content for broadcast over leased television channels.